

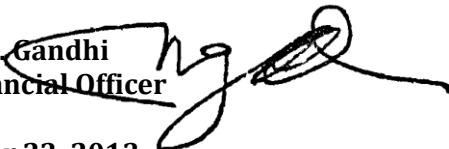
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: September 23, 2013

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “Public Education Governance Improvement Amendment Act of 2013”

REFERENCE: Bill 20-315 – Draft Committee Print provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 11, 2013

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2014 through FY 2017 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The bill mandates that the State Superintendent of Education (“Superintendent”) serve a four-year term concurrent with the Mayor. It also establishes that the Superintendent, as well as members of the Public Charter School Board (“Charter Board”), may only be removed by the Mayor for cause, and with the approval of two-thirds of the Council.

The bill grants the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) the authority to waive District regulations for a Local Education Authority (LEAs, in the case of the District, are DCPS and District’s public charter schools), if that LEA applies for a waiver in writing, and if the approval is expected to lead to improved student achievement. Additionally, the State Board of Education (SBOE) will be required to issue an annual performance review of OSSE, and by October 1 of each year, issue a report on the status of primary and secondary education to the Mayor and Council.

Lastly, the bill requires the Mayor to conduct a comprehensive review of all municipal regulations related to education and submit a report to the Council by July 1, 2015.

Financial Plan Impact

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 20-315, "Public Education Governance Improvement Amendment Act of 2013," Draft Committee Print provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 11, 2013.

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2014 through FY 2017 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. Changing the rules regarding removal of the Superintendent and the Charter Board does not have a fiscal impact. The reporting and review requirements placed on SBOE, as well as the review of municipal regulation (which is likely to be performed by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education), can be absorbed within current resources.